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Bericht über die neuere Literatur zur deutschen Landeskunde.
(Bd. III, 1902 und 1903). Von Prof. Dr. Alfred Kirchhoff und
Prof. Dr. Willi Ule. v and 250 pp., Ferdinand Hirt, Breslau, 1906.
 (Price, M. 7.50.)

Bibliographies of German geographical literature and map products are of especial value to geographers, because Germany has still so much to teach the rest of the world as to the content of geography and the methods of using geographical data in books and maps. For these reasons the third volume of this report on German geographical literature in 1902-1903 will be as heartily welcomed as the earlier volumes. The contents are so classified that every literary and cartographic reference is easily found. Under nearly all the titles are a few lines of descriptive or critical matter.

Aimé Bonpland, Médecin et Naturaliste, Explorateur de l'Amérique du Sud, Sa Vie, Son Œuvre, Sa Correspondance, avec un choix de pièces relatives à sa Biographie, un Portrait et une Carte. Par le Dr. E. T. Hamy, Membre de l'Institut, etc. E. Guilmoto, Paris, 1906.

To follow up the publication of the correspondence of Alexander von Humboldt with the letters written by Humboldt's life-long friend was a happy thought of the President of the Society of Americanists, and it is executed by him in his characteristic commendable manner. The correspondence of Bonpland fills a gap in biography which the writings of de Angelis, de Moussy, and the work of Brunel had left open. In fact, a biography of Bonpland, or any material therefor, is a welcome addition to that of Humboldt also, so intimately are the lives of these two men linked, although they took leave of each other in 1816 for the rest of their lives, though neither in spirit nor in feeling was their mutual attachment ever impaired; it rather seemed to grow with age. Humboldt was born in 1769, Bonpland saw the light of the world, at La Rochelle, four years later (August 28, 1773). They met accidentally, at Paris, in a doorway; Bonpland was carrying botanical apparatus, Humboldt noticed it, and the connection was made, for the benefit of science and humanity.

Bonpland was educated for the practice of medicine, and as a naval surgeon began his career at Rochefort and Toulon. Upon his return to Paris he entered definitely upon the course of studies that was to fit him more particularly for explorations and researches in distant, unstudied lands. The outcome of his labours in botany is a household word to scientists, but he was not less informed on zoological (fossil and living) and geological topics. In every way a worthy associate of Humboldt, he exercised a healthy influence upon the work of the great physicist. The two men complemented each other, in knowledge and in the methods of advancing and applying it. It is perhaps regrettable that Bonpland did not remain longer in Europe, after his return with Humboldt in 1804. He had been very well received, and shared, in fact, all the scientific honours bestowed upon his illustrious companion. The Imperial Government of France assigned to him, in compensation of a part of his botanical collections, an annual pension of 3,000 francs. How that sum, comparatively small at the present day, was appreciated by the beneficiary can be gathered from his letter of March 18, 1805, to the husband of his sister: "Felicitate me, I am protected from frost, northerly winds, rains, &c., finally, from all the little causes that often make the land-tiller fear for his crops." Besides, he counts upon a gain of